Message Text

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R 140850Z FEB 77 FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1249 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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SUBJECT: ZANZIBAR VIEW OF TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

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SUMMARY. THE MAJOR CHANGES ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY BY PRESIDENT JULIUS NYERERE (REFS A, B, C) ARE SEEN IN ZANZIBAR AS VIRTUALLY CEMENTING FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ABOUD JUMBE'S SUCCESSION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF TANZANIA AND AS THROWING WIDE OPEN THE QUESTION OF WHO MIGHT SUCCEED HIM AS EVENTUAL PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR. THE APPARENT DEMISE OF HASSAN NASSOR MOYO IS VIEWED AS A VICTORY FOR THE ANTI-UNION FACTION ON ZANZIBAR. END SUMMARY.

1. THE ANNOUNCED REPLACEMENT OF RASHIDI KAWAWA BY EDWARD M. SOKOINE AS PRIME MINISTER OF TANZANIA IS VIEWED AS A CLEAR STRENGTHENING OF ABOUD JUMBE'S CLAIM AS NYERERE'S SUCCESSOR WHEN AND IF THE LATTER DECIDES TO RETIRE FROM THE PRESIDENCY AND OVERSEE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AS CHAIRMAN OF CHAMA CHA MAPINDUZI. JUMBE AT ONE TIME WAS JUNIOR TO KAWAWA, BUT SOKOINE HAS ALWAYS BEEN SUBORDINATE TO JUMBE. SOKOINE DOES NOT YET HAVE THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE ACCORDED JUMBE AND FORMERLY CONFIDENTIAL.

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ACCORDED KAWAWA AND THUS IS NOT SEEN AS BEING IN ANY POSITION TO CHALLENGE JUMBE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

2. THE APPARENT DEMISE OF MOYO FROM HIS POSITION AS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE IS ATTRIBUTED BY ONE WHO WORKED UNDER HIM TO HIS DICTATORIAL MANNER AND HIS INSISTENCE THAT HE WAS THE FINAL AUTHORITY ON ALL ZANZIBAR

AFFAIRS DURING JUMBE'S FREQUENT ABSENCES FROM THE ISLANDS.
LOW LEVEL PARTY FUNCTIONARIES WERE REPORTEDLY ANNOYED BY
THIS IMPERIOUS ATTITUDE AND COMPLAINED VIGOROUSLY TO JUMBE
ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS ABOUT MOYO'S HIGH-HANDED MANNER.
MOYO'S NON-ZANZIBAR ORIGINS (HE WAS BORN IN SONGEA, IN TANGANYIKA) WERE ANOTHER CAUSE OF CONCERN TO XENOPHOBI ZANZIBARIS WHO
ARE PERENIALLY SUSPICIOUS OF MAINLAND INFLUENCE ON THE
ISLANDS. MOYO WAS VIEWED AS A MILD PROPONENT OF CLOSER TIES
WITH THE MAINLAND AND HIS TRANSFER TO DAR ES SALAAM IS VIEWED
BY THE CHIEF ZANZIBAR OPPONENT OF UNION, ATTORNEY-GENERAL
WOLFANGO DOURADO, AS AN EFFORT BY JUMBE TO KEEP SOME DISTANCE
BETWEEN THE ZANZIBAR GOVERNMENT AND THAT OF THE MAINLAND.
HIS TRANSFER COULD BE SEEN BY MAINLANDERS AS HAVING JUST
THE OPPOSITE EFFECT, HOWEVER, BY BRINGING ZANZIBAR'S SECONDRANKING OFFICIAL INTO THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

3. PUTTING SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN MOYO AND ZANZIBAR AFFAIRS THROWS THE LIST OF POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS TO JUMBE AS PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR WIDE OPEN (REF D). ALI MZEE, THE NEW MINISTER OF STATE IN THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, MUST NOW BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF CONTENDERS. MZEE, BORN IN 1944 IN ZANZIBAR TOWN, HAS A STANDARD 9 EDUCATION AND THUS, LIKE THE MAN HE REPLACED, LACKS A HIGH DEGREE OF FORMAL EDUCATION. HE IS AN EXTROVERT, AN ENTHUSIASTIC AND POPULAR STUMP SPEAKER WHO IS OFTEN USED AT MEETINGS AND RALLIES TO WARM UP THE CROWD PRIOR TO THE MAIN SPEAKER. HIS COMMAND OF ENGLISH IS ADEQUATE BUT HE PREFERS TO SPEAK IN SWAHILI. MZEE IS A SHIRAZI, AND AS SUCH INHERITS THE FOLLOWERS PREVIOUSLY LOYAL TO SHEIKH THABIT KOMBO. AS THE NOW PRE-EMINENT SHIRAZI HE IS THOUGHT TO BE AN CONFIDENTIAL

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OPPONENT OF CLOSER TIES WITH THE MAINLAND. MZEE IS VIEWED AS SUPREMELY LOYAL TO JUMBE AND DURING THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S FREQUENT ABSENCES FROM ZANZIBAR THE WORK OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO PROCEED EVEN MORE SLOWLY THAN EVER, SINCE HE WILL WISH TO CONSULT WITH JUMBE BEFORE MAKING EVEN THE MOST MINOR DECISIONS. MZEE'S THINKING ON POLITICAL TOPICS IS DIFFICULT TO CLASSIFY. WHETHER OR NOT HE HAS ANY REALLY WELL-DEFINED IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENTS IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE SINCE HE IS NOT KNOWN FOR FORMULATING OR EVEN VOICING NEW IDEAS OR THEORIES BUT SEEMS CONTENT TO IMPLEMENT THE PARTY LINE, AS LAID DOWN BY HIS SUPERIORS.

4. JUMBE IS TODAY HOLDING MEETINGS AS PARTY HEADQUARTERS AND MORE SHUFFLING OF PEOPLE AND POSITIONS IS EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY. HE HAS ASKED TO BE PROVIDED WITH THE NAMES OF ABLE, YOUNGER, WELL-EDUCATED MEN TO STAFF MID-LEVEL GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. ONE POSSIBLE CANDIDATE WHO MAY BE SLATED FOR ELEVATION IS ALI SALIM, CURRENTLY ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, WHO MAY BE MOVED TO DEPUTY EXECUTIVE

SECRETARY OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, WHICH HAS ABSORBED
NEARLY ALL KEY FUNCTIONS FORMERLY PERFORMED BY THE AFRO-SHIRAZI
PARTY.
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